

Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A paper product having a base sheet and a substantially continuous marking-erasable coating disposed on at least one surface of the base sheet, where the marking-erasable coating is ~~water-soluble or water-dispersible~~ suitable for marking with an ink, and where the ink does not bond to the at least one surface of the base sheet.

2. (Original) The paper product of claim 1, where the paper product is substantially recyclable or substantially repulpable.

3. (Currently Amended) The paper product of claim 1, where the marking-erasable coating is ~~substantially continuous~~ water-soluble or water-dispersible.

4. (Previously Presented) The paper product of claim 1, wherein the marking-erasable coating has a surface and is configured so that liquid ink from a black dry erase marker can be applied to the surface of the marking-erasable coating, allowed to dry, and then erased with a dry cloth, where the liquid ink has a marker density greater than about 0.5 after drying and a residual marker density less than about 0.1 after being erased.

5. (Original) The paper product of claim 1, where the marking-erasable coating comprises an ingredient selected from the group consisting of starch, cellulose, a charged polymer, a derivative thereof, and mixtures thereof.

6. (Original) The paper product of claim 1, where the marking-erasable coating comprises pearl corn starch, pea starch, ethylated starch, carboxyl methylated starch, cationic potato starch, styrene butadiene grafted starch, modified food grade tapioca starch, carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, sodium alginate, polyvinyl alcohol, or mixtures thereof.

7. (Original) The paper product of claim 1, where the marking-erasable coating comprises at least one starch.

8. (Original) The paper product of claim 1, where the marking-erasable coating comprises greater than about 50% starch by dry weight.

9. (Original) The paper product of claim 1, where the paper product has a Gurley density greater than about 1,000 seconds.

10. (Original) The paper product of claim 1, where the surface of the paper product has a Sheffield smoothness less than about 200 cubic centimeters per minute.

11. (Original) The paper product of claim 1, where the marking-erasable coating is present in an amount sufficient to make the paper product erasable.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Original) The paper product of claim 1, where the base sheet comprises:
a base-sheet core, comprising a network of fibers; and
a base-sheet coating, comprising a pigment and a binder.

15-16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The paper product of claim 14, where the marking-erasable coating comprises less than about 30% pigment by dry weight.

18. (Original) The paper product of claim 1, where the base sheet comprises a base-sheet core and there is no base-sheet coating between the base-sheet core and the marking-erasable coating.

19-21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The paper product of claim 1, where the marking-erasable coating has a substantially continuous surface that contains substantially no surface-exposed pigment particles.

23-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method for making a paper product, comprising:
providing a base sheet;

applying a substantially continuous marking-erasable coating to [[a]] at least one surface of the base sheet to form the paper product, where the marking-erasable coating is water-soluble or water-dispersible, and where the marking erasable coating is suitable for marking with an ink;
and

subsequently calendering the paper product.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising calendering the paper product ~~after applying the marking-erasable coating~~ until the paper product has a Gurley density greater than about 1,000 seconds.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, further comprising calendering the paper product ~~after applying the marking-erasable coating~~ until the paper product has a Sheffield smoothness less than about 200 cubic centimeters per minute.

28-29. (Canceled)

30. (Original) The method of claim 25, where the marking-erasable coating is applied at a coating weight sufficient to make the paper product erasable.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Original) The method of claim 25, where the base sheet comprises:
a base-sheet core, comprising a network of fibers; and
a base-sheet coating, comprising a binder.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Original) The method of claim 25, where the base sheet does not comprise a base-sheet coating and no base-sheet coating is applied before applying the marking-erasable coating.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) A kit, comprising:
a paper product, comprising a base sheet and a substantially continuous marking-erasable coating suitable for marking with an ink, where the marking-erasable coating is water-soluble or water-dispersible; and
a writing instrument that can be used to create erasable marks on the paper product.

37. (Original) The kit of claim 36, further comprising an eraser that can be used to erase marks made on the paper product by the writing instrument.

38. (Currently Amended) A note paper product, comprising a sheet having a first surface and a second surface, where at least a portion of the second surface is covered with an adhesive material, the sheet comprises a base sheet and a substantially continuous marking-erasable coating disposed on at least one surface of the base sheet, where the marking-erasable coating is suitable for marking with an ink, and where the ~~marking-erasable coating is water-soluble or water-dispersible~~ ink does not bond to the at least one surface of the base sheet.

39. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 36, wherein the writing instrument comprises an ink marker.

40. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 39, wherein the ink marker can be used to apply liquid ink to the marking-erasable coating of the paper product to create the erasable marks.

41. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 39, wherein the ink marker can be used to apply permanent ink to the marking-erasable coating of the paper product to create the erasable marks.

42. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 36, wherein the writing instrument comprises a dry erase marker.

43. (New) The method of claim 32, where the marking erasable coating is applied at a dry coating weight varying from about 0.3 pounds per 3,000 ft² to about 8 pounds per 3,000 ft².

44. (New) The method of claim 34, where the marking-erasable coating is applied at a dry coating weight varying from about 2 pounds per 3,000 ft² to about 15 pounds per 3,000 ft².

45. (New) A method of using a paper product having a marking-erasable coating, comprising:

providing a paper product comprising a base sheet and a substantially continuous marking-erasable coating disposed on at least one surface of the base sheet, where the marking-erasable coating is suitable for erasing ink markings;

applying marks to the paper product with a writing instrument; and
subsequently removing the marks from the paper product.

46. (New) The method of claim 45, where the writing instrument comprises a dry erase marker and the marks are removed with a dry cloth.

47. (New) The method of claim 46, where the writing instrument comprises an ink marker.

48. (New) A paper product, comprising:

a base sheet, where the base sheet optionally includes a base-sheet coating in an amount varying from about 2 pounds per 3,000 ft² to about 20 pounds per 3,000 ft²; and

a substantially continuous marking-erasable coating disposed on at least one surface of the base sheet in an amount varying from about 0.3 pounds per 3,000 ft² to about 8 pounds per 3,000 ft² when the base-sheet coating is present and varying from about 2 pounds per 3,000 ft² to about 15 pounds per 3,000 ft² when the base-sheet coating is not present, the marking-erasable coating comprising pearl corn starch, pea starch, ethylated starch, carboxyl methylated starch, cationic potato starch, styrene butadiene grafted starch, modified food grade tapioca starch, carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, sodium alginate, polyvinyl alcohol, or mixtures thereof, wherein the paper product has a Gurley density greater than about 1,000 seconds and a Sheffield smoothness less than about 200 cubic centimeters per minute, and wherein the paper product is substantially recyclable or substantially repulpable.